

edge 5 on the mat.

The icebreaker mat is designed to be a safe and easy alternative to the removal of ice from a door entrance, porch walkway, and exterior steps. It is a product that is extremely easy to install, requires little or no maintenance. Once the ice has broken and is cleared from the mat, it will provide a safer slip-resistant mat to walk on throughout the winter months. The textured cover material is not only slip resistant, it also picks up the rays of the sun and eliminates ice from forming during the daylight hours.

It will now be apparent to those skilled in the art that other embodiments, improvements, details, and uses can be made consistent with the letter and spirit of the foregoing disclosure and within the scope of this patent, which is limited only by the following claims, construed in accordance with the patent law, including the doctrine of equivalents.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Kindly amend the claim as follows:

1. (amended) An icebreaker mat comprising:

(A) [a product made of] a slip-resistant, non-adhering, water-proof cover material, which contains a flexible core [substance of styrofoam, foam, or other] material [suitable to provide the same results. Sealed], said cover material being sealed so as to provide a water-proof, air tight, flexible stair mat, [pad or stair tread attachment.] ;

(B) [once assembled and sealed into one unit, the icebreaker] said mat [will provide] providing a safe and convenient method of eliminating ice from exterior stairs and open walking areas of a porch or landing.

[(C) although the icebreaker mat has an overall size of 9"X 36"X1/4", and is set at that dimension so as to provide walking space for two persons, side by side, it is not limited to that size, for it could be produced shorter, or longer if the need should arise. Therefore the icebreaker mat is not limited to the size in which it is being presented.]

Please add the following claims:

2. A mat as defined in claim 1 wherein the core is approximately 1/4 " in thickness.
3. A mat as defined in claim 2, wherein the cover material is imitation leather.
4. A mat as defined in claim 3 wherein the imitation leather includes a knit cloth and there is an adhesive-bonded and chemical fabric forming a base material which is coated with PVC after it is pressed and foamed.

REMARKS

The Office Action of August 7, 2002 has been reviewed and this is a response to that action.

The specification has been amended without adding any new matter.

Claim 1 has been amended to avoid the rejection based upon 35 USC 112, second paragraph, and a further claims have been added.

Claims 2-4 have been added to provide applicant with the protection to which he believes he is entitled.